

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above referenced application in view of the following remarks is requested. Claims 1 and 27 have been amended. Claims 5 and 31 have been cancelled. Claims 1-4, 6-8, 27-30, and 32-36 remain in the application. The amendments put all of the existing claims in condition for allowance and hence should be entered.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-4 and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Husak et al., US Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0260829 A1 (hereinafter Husak).

Claims 1 and 27 have been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter in original claims 5 and 31, respectively. Claims 5 and 31 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 1 and 27 are allowable now. Accordingly, claims 2-4 and 28-30, which depend from claims 1 and 27, respectively, are also allowable.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103

Claims 7 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Husak in view of Assa et al. (US Patent Publication No. 2002/0018474 A1) (hereinafter Assa).

Claims 8 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Husak in view of Smith et al. (US Patent No. 6,747,977) (hereinafter Smith).

Claims 7-8 depend from claim 1 and claims 33-34 depend from claim 27. Claims 1 and 27, as amended, are now allowable and accordingly, claims 7-8 and claims 33-34 are also allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully asserted that all of the claims pending in this patent application are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (503) 264-1700. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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